

## Message Text

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42

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 251339Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6667

S E C R E T KINSHASA 1663

NODIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECDEF ISA/DSAA, CAIRO FOR UNDERSECRETARY  
ROBINSON AND PLS BRING TO AMB CUTLER'S ATTENTION

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, CG

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE

REF: KINSHASA 1600, USEUCOM 3417

FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION OF AIDE MEMOIRE PRESENTED  
BY MOBUTU TO UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON. COMMENTS FOLLOW  
BY SEPTEL.

QUOTE: SUBJECT: EQUIPMENT FOR FAZ.

1. EACH TIME WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ACQUIRE MODERN EQUIPMENT  
FOR OUR ARMED FORCES, OUR FRIENDS (READ US) HAVE OFFERED  
THE FOLLOWING COUNSEL:

A. THE THREAT WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY THE  
EXPENDITURE OF SO MUCH MONEY;  
B. CERTAIN EQUIPMENT (BECAUSE OF ITS EXCESSIVE WEIGHT)  
COULD NOT BE EMPLOYED ON AFRICAN SOIL. ADDITIONALLY THE  
EQUIPMENT COULD NOT BE USED BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF A COMMUNI-  
CATION INFRASTRUCTURE.

2. AS A RESULT OF RECENT EVENTS IN ANGOLA ALL THESE FACTS  
HAVE LOST THEIR VALIDITY AND NO LONGER OBTAIN. WE HAVE  
JUST WITNESSED RUSSIAN AND CUBAN EMPLOYMENT ON ANGOLAN

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SOIL OF:

--ARTILLERY, ROCKETS AND MISSILES;  
-- HEAVY TANKS AND EQUIPMENT TO INCLUDE T54'S AND T34'S;  
-ARMED HELICOPTERS AND HEAVY TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS  
--MIG 21-TYPE AIRCRAFT, ETC.

IN THE FACE OF THIS EVER-INCREASING THREAT ZAIRE CANNOT  
REMAIN INACTIVE. ACCORDING THE EQUIPMENT WITH WHICH  
THE FAZ IS ARMED MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PRESENT  
SITUATION.

3. WITH REGARD TO GROUND FORCES, AT MY (MOBUTU'S) REQUEST A STUDY  
WAS MADE BY GENERAL ROCKWELL, US ARMY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
DEVELOPING AND EQUIPPING AN INFANTRY DIVISION (NATO TYPE).  
HOWEVER, I DESIRE THAT THIS DIVISION BE TOTALLY ARMED WITH  
MEANS PERMITTING IT TO CONDUCT INDEPENDENT OPERATIONS AT  
BRIGADE AND BATTALION LEVEL.

4. IN CONSEQUENCE, I DESIRE A CONSIDERABLE REINFORCEMENT  
BRINGING TO TOTAL NUMBER OF BRIGADES TO FIVE INSTEAD OF  
FOUR AND ELEVATING CERTAIN INDEPENDENT COMPANIES TO  
INDEPENDENT BATTALIONS.

5. WITH REGARD TO THE AIR FORCE AND NAVY THE FORECASTS  
ARE A FUNCTION OF THE GEOPOLITICAL CONFIGURATION OF ZAIRE.  
THE CURRENT NEEDS OF THE FAZ ARE DETAILED BELOW:

(1) GROUND FORCES:

TO SUPPLEMENT REQUIREMENTS EXPRESSED IN THE ROCKWELL

ICEPORT.

A. 1 BDE HEAVY CAV    2 HEAVY TANK BN AND 1 MECH BN

01. HEAVY TANKS            110

02. TROOP TRANSPORT VEHICLES   50

03. TANK RETRIEVER        10

04. TANK TRANSPORTER       10

05. TANK DESTROYER        20

06. ALL THE OTHER AUX MATERIEL,  
ARMS, TRUCKS, ETC.

B. SIGNAL COMPANY        JK TYPE ROCKWELL

C. LIGHT AVIATION CO.     1 TYPE ROCKWELL

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D. MECH BDE                1 FOR SUPPRESSION OF MOTORIZED  
INFANTRY

E. ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTER    1 THE OTHER BTRY WILL CONSIST  
OF 35MM CANNONS W/RADAR

07. GROUND-AIR MISSILES    6 LAUNCHES   LOW & MEDIUM ALTITUDE

F. ARTILLERY BRIGADE	TO BE DETERMINED
08. HOWITZER 155 SP	"
09. HOWITZER 8" SP	"
10. CANON 175MM SP	"
11. ROCKET LAUNCHERS	"
12. GROUND-TO-GROUND MISSILES	"

B. FOR DEFENSE OF SITES (INGA, KITONA, BANANA, MATADI  
SOZAIK, MINING INSTALLATIONS OF SHABA)

13. GROUND-AIR MISSILES	STUDY TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF UNITS TO BE DEPLOYED.
14. GROUND-GROUND MISSILES	"
15. AA BJTY SS	"

(2). AIGSFORCE

1. ARMED HELICOPTERS	20
2. TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS	24 HEAVY LIFT, CAPABLE OF SLING-LIFTING
3. INTERCEPTORS	30
4. RECON A/C	6
5. RADAR COVERAGE FOR ALL LONG, MEDIUM AND SHORT RANGE ZAIRE	

TO BE DETERMINED  
AFTER STUDY.

(3) NAVY FORCES	12 HEAVY PIECES
2. MINESWEEPERS	2 INSHORE (MST)
3. HARBOR TUG	
U	2
4. COASTAL TUG	2
5. DESTROYERS (OR ESCORT VESSEL)	3

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6. TORPEDO-LAUNCHERS (BOATS?)	3
7. LOGISTICS/RESUPPLY SUPPORT FACILITY	2
8. MISSILE LAUNCHING PATROL	
BOATS (TYPE PG-84)	10
9. SURFACE SCANNING RADAR (LOW ALTITUDE)	2
10. AERIAL SURVEILLANCE RADAR	2
11. UNDERWATER DETECTION RADAR	2
12. LANDING CRAFT	10
13. AMPHIBIOUS HELICOPTERS	5

DICISION TYPE (WITH DESIRED REINFORCEMENTS)  
COMPOSITION  
A 1 SINGAL BATTALION  
B. 1 LOGISTICS BATTULION  
C. 2 MECH BSUGADES

D. 1 HEAVY CAV BRIGADE  
E. 1. AIR DEFENSE BATTALION  
F. 1 ENGINEER BN  
G. 1 ARTILLERY BRIGADE  
H. 1 LIGHT AVIATION BN (HELICOPTER & RECON)  
I. 1 LIGHT CAV BRIGADE

END QUOTE  
WALKER

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## Message Attributes

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